FROM-Merchant & Gould

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 10731.73USU1

Application Serial No. 09/944,712 Examiner: Anh Ly

Art Unit: 2162

Remarks

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed on January 6, 2005. Claims 1, 5, 11, 12, 15, and 20 are amended. No new matter is added. Claims 1-20 remain pending.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

I. <u>Interview Summary</u>

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative, Robert A. Kalinsky, during the telephonic interview on April 14, 2005. During the interview, claim 1 and U.S. Patent Nos. 6,442,573 and 6,547,829 were discussed. No agreement regarding the allowability of the claims was reached.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

In section 4 of the Office Action, claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schiller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,442,573, in view of Meyerzon et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,547,829. This rejection is respectfully traversed, and the correctness of the rejection is not conceded. Reconsideration is requested for at least the following reasons.

Preliminarily, Applicants respectfully do not concede that any motivation exists to combine the teachings of Schiller and Meyerzon. Applicants expressly reserve the right to argue against such a combination in future prosecution.

Claim 1 is directed to a data management system. Claim 1 recites, among other limitations:

- a file organizing/categorizing processor for organizing the received data files,
 based on a predetermined list, into a source directory structure including at least one source directory, and a corresponding destination directory structure including a least one destination directory;
- a file logging processor for logging the received data files into a database formed by the source directory structure and identifying a file type of the received data files; and

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 a second server processor for exporting the image files to the destination directory structure.

One example of a system including a source directory structure and a corresponding destination directory structure is disclosed at page 12, line 12 through page 13, line 6 of the present application. It can be advantageous to create a source directory structure and a corresponding destination directory structure so that both the received data files and the converted image files are categorized and accessible.

Neither Schiller nor Meyerzon discloses or suggests a system including both a source directory structure and a corresponding destination directory structure as recited by claim 1. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1, as well as claims 2-11 that depend therefrom, are therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 11 recites a data management method including limitations similar to those described above with respect to claim 1. Claim 11 is therefore allowable for at least similar reasons to those provided above for claim 1. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 11, as well as claims 12-20 that depend therefrom, are respectfully requested.

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The remarks set forth above provide certain arguments in support of the patentability of the pending claims. There may be other reasons that the pending claims are patentably distinct over the cited references, and the right to raise any such other reasons or arguments in the future is expressly reserved.

Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Please contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this application.

> Respectfully submitted, MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903 (612) 332-5300

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